

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 6865

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE, FPOR, XG

SUBJECT: CSCE: ROMANIAN POSITIONS--REFERENCE TO LDCS IN BASKET II

REF: STATE 246486

1. SUMMARY. REFTTEL REFERS TO DISCUSSION OF "SPECIAL PREFERENCES" FOR LDCS IN CSCE. SINCE THERE HAS BEEN NO DISCUSSION OF "SPECIAL PREFERENCES" IN GENEVA, WE ASSUME ROMANIANS WERE ALLUDING TO POSSIBILITY OF SPECIAL "REFERENCES" TO LDCS IN BASKET II (ECONOMICS, SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT) TEXTS. THIS HAS BEEN AN ACTIVE, THOUGH PERIPHERAL, ISSUE HERE, WITH ROMANIANS AND OTHER PARTICIPATING LDCS FAVORING LANGUAGE WHICH GIVES SPECIAL PLACE TO EUROPEAN LDCS, AND SOVIET BLOC OPPOSING, PERHAPS BECAUSE OF IMPLICATIONS FOR USSR-ROMANIAN DISPUTE IN COMECON FRAMEWORK. DESPITE EC-NINE RELUCTANCE TO ACCEPT SUCH LANGUAGE, USDEL HAS SUPPORTED IT AND A COMPROMISE IS NOW IN SIGHT. END SUMMARY.

2. PARA 3D OF REFTTEL REFERS TO DISCUSSION OF "SPECIAL PREFERENCES" FOR LDCS IN CSCE BASKET II. THERE HAS NEVER BEEN ANY SUCH DISCUSSION, AND WE ASSUME ROMANIANS WERE REFERRING TO "SPECIAL REFERENCES" TO LDCS, WHICH HAS BEEN AN ACTIVE THOUGH PERIPHERAL ISSUE HERE.

3. BASIC POSITIONS ON THIS ISSUE ARE AS FOLLOWS: ALL
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DELEGATIONS RECOGNIZE NEED TO MAKE SOME OVERALL REFER-

ENCE TO LDCS IN CONTEXT OF CSCE BASKET II, TO DEMONSTRATE INTEREST OF INDUSTRIALIZED EUROPEAN COUNTRIES IN ASSISTING ECONOMIC PROGRESS ELSEWHERE. DELEGATIONS FROM MOST COUNTRIES WHO CONSIDER THEMSELVES LDCS, HOWEVER, HAVE SOUGHT LANGUAGE WHICH WOULD RECOGNIZE THEIR STATUS AS LDCS. (THIS WOULD REINFORCE THEIR EFFORTS ELSEWHERE (SUCH AS UNCTAD) WHERE LDC GROUP OF 77 HAS ARGUED (AND VOTED) THAT ONLY ITS MEMBERS HAVE RIGHT TO BE CONSIDERED AS LDCS. THIS FORMULA EXCLUDES COUNTRIES SUCH AS SPAIN, GREECE, TURKEY, ROMANIA.) USDEL HAS CONSISTENTLY SUPPORTED THIS GROUP, WHICH INCLUDES ROMANIA, GREECE, TURKEY, PORTUGAL, SPAIN AND MALTA. (CYPRUS AND YUGOSLAVIA NOT DIRECTLY INVOLVED SINCE THEY ARE MEMBERS OF GROUP OF 77). EC-NINE WERE RELUCTANT TO ACCEPT LANGUAGE WITH SUCH A SLANT BUT EVENTUALLY AGREED TO COMPROMISE TEXT NATO CAUCUS SUBSEQUENTLY PUT FORWARD IN COMMITTEE II AS TURKISH PROPOSAL (TEXT BELOW). THEY AGREED, HOWEVER, ON UNDERSTANDING THIS REFERENCE WOULD TAKE CARE OF ISSUE ONCE AND FOR ALL AND THAT EUROPEAN LDCS WOULD NOT PRESS MATTER FOR INCLUSION IN OTHER BASKET II TEXTS. SOVIET BLOC (INCLUDING BULGARIA, WHICH CONSIDERS ITSELF AN LDC) HAS OPPOSED ANY REFERENCE TO EUROPEAN LDCS IN CSCE TEXTS, FOR REASONS WHICH REMAIN SOMEWHAT OBSCURE. EUROPEAN LDCS (EXCEPT BULGARIA) HAVE ADVOCATED REFERENCES TO EUROPEAN LDCS IN SEVERAL SPECIFIC BASKET II TEXTS, BUT THIS PROBABLY TACTICAL AND WE BELIEVE THEIR CONCERNS COULD BE COVERED BY A CLEAR REFERENCE TO EUROPEAN LDCS IN AN OVERALL PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPH WHICH REFERS TO LDCS IN GENERAL.

4. ROMANIANS HAVE GIVEN STRONG SUPPORT TO A TURKISH PROPOSAL FOR A REFERENCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES "INCLUDING THOSE IN EUROPE" IN A PARAGRAPH OF THE BASKET II PREAMBLE. TURKISH-PROPOSED PARAGRAPH, WHICH WAS AGREED WITHIN NATO CAUCUS LAST SUMMER, READS AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: MINDFUL OF THE INTERESTS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND REGIONS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, INCLUDING THOSE IN EUROPE, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THEIR DIFFERENT LEVELS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
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AND REAFFIRMING THEIR INTENTION TO WORK FOR THE ATTAINMENT OF GOALS AND OBJECTIVES AS ACCEPTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IN THE INTERNATIONAL STRATEGY OF THE UN SECOND DEVELOPMENT DECADE, WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. UNQUOTE.
(GENEVA A-254 SHOWS HOW THIS PARAGRAPH WOULD FIT INTO FULL BASKET II PREAMBLE.)

5. USSR, WITH SUPPORT OF OTHER EES (INCLUDING BULGARIA), HAS CONSISTENTLY OPPOSED ANY REFERENCE TO EUROPEAN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN CSCE TEXTS. MAIN REASON GIVEN IN DEBATES HAS BEEN THAT CSCE WOULD BE SEVERELY CRITICIZED BY LDC GROUP IN UN (GROUP OF 77) IF FINAL TEXTS INCLUDED A SPECIAL REFERENCE TO LDCS IN EUROPE. WE HAVE HEARD, HOWEVER, THAT REAL REASON IS BECAUSE OF IMPLICATIONS OF CSCE TEXT FOR USSR-ROMANIAN DISPUTE IN COMECON OVER WHETHER ROMANIA SHOULD HAVE LDC STATUS IN THAT ORGANIZATION. EE'S HAVE HINTED THIS ISSUE MAY BE SUSCEPTIBLE TO RESOLUTION AT VERY END OF CONFERENCE, AND THERE ARE REPORTS THAT SOVIETS ARE ALREADY BEGINNING TO DISCUSS WITH SOME DELS A COMPROMISE TEXT, WHICH INCLUDES A REFERENCE TO LDCS IN EUROPE. WE UNDERSTAND MOST EUROPEAN LDC DELEGATIONS ARE PREPARED TO ACCEPT A COMPROMISE ON THIS POINT. SWEDES HAVE SUPPORTED EE'S ON GROUNDS ALL EUROPEAN COUNTRIES ARE DEVELOPED IN RELATION TO POORER LDCS BUT WE DO NOT THINK THEY WILL STAND IN WAY OF AGREEMENT. NORWEGIANS HAVE PRIVATELY EXPRESSED SIMILAR CONCERNS.

6. SOVIET FLEXIBILITY COULD HELP TO ADVANCE WORK, SINCE THIS IS ONE OF THE FEW UNRESOLVED ISSUES IN BASKET II PREAMBLE, AND IS STANDING IN WAY OF PROGRESS ON OTHER ISSUES. FOR EXAMPLE, ROMANIANS ARE REFUSING TO AGREE TO FORMAL REGISTRATION OF ANY OF "MENTALLY REGISTERED" TEXTS IN BASKET II PREAMBLE UNTIL LDC ISSUE IS SOLVED. IT IS ALSO HAVING EFFECTS ON DISCUSSION OF LANGUAGE ON RECIPROCITY IN PREAMBLE TO BASKET II AND IN COMMERCIAL EXCHANGES TEXT (GENEVA 6704).

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7. AS POSSIBLY RELATED MATTER, ROMANIANS HAVE ASKED FOR OUR SUPPORT FOR VERSION OF BASKET II PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPH REFERRING TO TRADE EXPANSION AND RECIPROCITY QUOTE REGARDLESS OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SYSTEMS UNQUOTE, RATHER THAN QUOTE REGARDLESS OF DIFFERENCES IN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SYSTEMS UNQUOTE. THEIR ARGUMENT IS THAT USSR WOULD ARGUE THAT LATTER TEXT WOULD NOT COVER USSR-ROMANIAN RELATIONS SINCE THEY DO NOT HAVE DIFFERENCE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SYSTEMS. WE HAVE INFORMED ROMANIANS WE COULD SUPPORT TEXT WITHOUT SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO DIFFERENCE.

8. DELEGATION PLANS EARLY LUNCHEON MEETING WITH ROMANIAN BASKET II REP TO DISCUSS PRIVATELY THEIR

VIEWS ON BASKET II ISSUES. DALE

NOTE BY OC/T: EXDIS CAPTION ADDED PER S/S-O, MS. ELTZ, 11/11/74.

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